

**REPORT/RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
AND RECORD OF ACTION**

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July 8, 2003

FROM: MICHAEL A. RAMOS
District Attorney

**SUBJECT: APPROVE GRANT APPLICATION TO THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, BUREAU
OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE, FOR CONTINUED FUNDING OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY'S COMMUNITY PROSECUTION PROGRAM IN THE AMOUNT OF
\$150,000 AND AUTHORIZE THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY TO SIGN AND SUBMIT THE
APPLICATION.**

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Approve grant application to the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance, for continued funding of the District Attorney's Community Prosecution Program.
2. Adopt resolution authorizing the District Attorney to sign and submit the grant application on behalf of the Board of Supervisors.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) Planning provided for a competitive grant application for Community Prosecution Planning, Enhancing or Implementing Community Prosecution efforts.

Community justice focuses on problem solving, strategic planning, and working in partnership with the community to prevent crime and violence and improve public safety. Throughout the country, law enforcement, courts and prosecutors, probation, parole, and public defender offices have begun to develop programs that emphasize working with the community. Community prosecution is an outgrowth of this effort.

The prosecutor collaborates with members of the community, both private sector and public sector to resolve problems and empower community members to take action themselves to make their neighborhoods better. For example, the prosecutor meets with owners of problem apartment complexes to resolve issues such as drug trading and loitering. The mere presence of a DA at meetings and his visibility has improved the exterior appearance of these buildings.

The grant award in FY 2002-03 was \$75,000 for the initial planning phase. Grant funds in the amount of \$150,000 are available for FY 2003-04 to continue a prosecutor's efforts in the community.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: If awarded, the department will request the Board's approval to accept the grant funds, and return to the Board to request additional appropriation and revenue.

REVIEW BY OTHERS: This action has been reviewed by the County Administrative Office (Mario Lara, Administrative Analyst) on June 26, 2003, and the Office of County Counsel (Scott Runyan, Deputy County Counsel) on June 26, 2003.

SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT(S): All

PRESENTER: James B. Hackleman, Assistant District Attorney 387-6601

Record of Action of the Board of Supervisors

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